# TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



## FISCAL MEMORANDUM

### SB 617 - HB 1120

February 20, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (004147): Requires the Department of Children's Services (DCS) to make chaplain services available on a regular basis to juveniles who are in DCS custody and housed in a youth development center. Requires DCS to provide annual training to all youth service officers on best practices for behavior management and conflict resolution in the supervision of juveniles. Prohibits children aged 16 or older who have been committed to DCS and are housed in a hardware secure juvenile detention facility or youth development center from being housed with juveniles less than 16 years of age except under certain circumstances. Effective January 1, 2024.

#### FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

#### **NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- DCS has one youth development center and the center currently has one chaplain
  position. Therefore, the requirement to make chaplain services available on a regular
  basis to juveniles housed in a youth development center will not impact state
  expenditures.
- Providing annual trainings to youth service officers can be accomplished within existing DCS resources and personnel.
- Pursuant to the proposed legislation, juveniles 16 years of age and older and those
  younger than 16 years of age will be required to be housed in separate facilities, unless
  DCS deems it necessary for the safety and well-being of juveniles to house them
  together.
- The separation of juveniles depending on age can be accomplished within existing resources; therefore, it will not create any increase in state expenditures.

# **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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